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FLOOR DEBATE

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from corn. And it's interesting that he would mention that methane might be used. Methane gas is a molecule and Senator Dierks can correct me, it has one atom of carbon, four atoms of hydrogen. And everybody knows that the dis...not the distillers, the refineries, Senator Janssen has me thinking down a different path, they use methane to produce MTBE, which was that oxygenated additive the gasoline people were putting...the petroleum industry was putting into their gasoline to reach that oxygenated level, and because of the contamination of ground water, that was not considered to be a good item to bring about the oxygenation in the fuel. So Nebraska banned it. As Senator Baker pointed out, no petroleum products sold in Nebraska contained MTBE. Any contamination in the water would be from a residue in other containers that may have had that substance when it was being brought from someplace else. But the point I want to make is this, no matter what anybody says about ethanol, and I know you all are obsessing over LUST right now, but whatever anybody says about ethanol, you cannot get away from the fact that it is an industry which cannot survive without heavy subsidization from the federal government and the state. There is no other enterprise which could get through this Legislature with the support of as many people as this bill apparently has if you knew on its face and from its inception it can never and could never survive as a viable business without heavy subsidy. It will never do that. Those in the racket know that it won't do it. Senator Dierks as much as admitted it by saying that they cannot give you a time when they will not need these subsidies. If ADM cannot continue to buy support in Congress for the 54 cent per gallon subsidy and it goes away, you all are not going to say that Nebraska is going to appropriate enough money to these ethanol hustlers, to these speculators to keep afloat an industry that cannot pay its own way. Why do you have to subsidize ADM? You know what Senator Bruning just showed me? While he was condemning IBP, and I'm in agreement, guess who owns IBM...I mean IBP? ADM. So not only are they crooking \$30 out of the public for every \$1 they make on ethanol, they own the company that has done the terrible things that Senator Bruning mentioned to you. But I'm the only purist on the floor when it comes to this. Senator Bruning doesn't want to do anything that will support ABP (sic), although ABP (sic) belongs to ADM. So supporting ADM supports